

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoichi ISHIDA et al.
Title: DISK DRIVE SYSTEM
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: 02/13/2004
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 2653

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statements in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the U.S. PTO in parent application Serial No. 09/736,368, filed 12/15/2000. As provided in 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office in the above-identified parent application.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language documents is explained in the parent application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or

even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to
Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 13, 2004

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: February 13, 2004 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	02/13/2004
				First Named Inventor	Yoichi ISHIDA
				Group Art Unit	2653
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	040405-0366

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	2,316,815		SEARS	04-20-1943	
	A2	4,872,151		SMITH	10-03-1989	
	A3	5,563,400		LE ROUX	10-08-1996	
	A4	5,646,920		RACZYNSKI	07-08-1997	
	A5	5,870,364		RACZYNSKI	02-09-1999	
	A6	5,584,043		BURKART	12-10-1996	
	A7	6,047,341		NIWATA et al.	04-04-2000	
	A8	5,663,553		AUCSMITH	09-02-1997	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A9	DE	196 01 176	A	IBM CORPORATION	07-24-1997		
	A10	JP	6-509194		SMARTDISKETTE GMBH	10-13-1994		
	A11	JP	8-504523		VERNOIS G; DUCLOUX TPH	05-14-1996		
	A12	JP	11-126244		FUJITSU LTD.	05-11-1999		
	A13	JP	10-92079		FUJITSU LTD.	04-10-1998		
	A14	EP	0 911 824		FUJITSU LTD.	04-28-1999		
	A15	WO	98/11497		HYPERCOM INC.	03-19-1998		
	A16	WO	95/22096		HANDELSBOLAGET STALCASTIN	08-17-1995		
	A17	JP	3060055			04-07-1999		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.